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## DIGEST

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HB 604 Original

2018 Regular Session

Emerson

**Abstract:** Requires employer to provide and pay for health insurance for the surviving spouse and children of a law enforcement officer who is killed in the line of duty.

Present law provides the surviving spouse, children, or other beneficiary of a law enforcement officer killed in the course of the performance of his official duties or arising out of any activity on or off duty in his capacity as a law enforcement officer, in the protection of life or property \$250,000 plus \$25,000 to each of the officer's dependent children.

Proposed law requires the employer of an officer who dies under the same circumstances to provide and pay for health insurance coverage for the law enforcement officer's surviving spouse for two years following the death of the law enforcement officer. Requires the employer to provide and pay for health insurance coverage for the law enforcement officer's surviving child for as long as the child remains qualified for the benefit or two years, whichever comes first. Provides that a child is qualified for the benefit if he is under the age of 18, under the age of 23 and enrolled in and regularly attending a secondary school or a full-time student at an accredited college or university, or physically or mentally disabled.

Provides that if health insurance coverage is offered by the employer to active members, the health insurance provided to a surviving spouse or child shall be equal in coverage to that offered to active members.

(Adds R.S. 40:1665.2(G))